

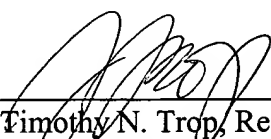
## REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended to call for receiving target speech data for speaker recognition. The present application, for example, on page 1, explains that speaker recognition includes speech or speaker identification and speech or speaker verification. None of the cited references have anything to do with such a system. Moreover, none of the cited references break a pair of distinct portions of the speech data into two and identify primarily signal attributes and primarily noise attributes. Finally, none of the cited references derive a distance measure for one of those two signal portions by using the primarily signal attributes of both signal portions. In other words, the data is broken into two signal portions which are further broken into for each signal portion, primarily signal and primarily noise. Then, the primarily signal attributes of each of those portions are used to derive a distance measure. Nothing of the sort is anywhere suggested in any cited reference or any possible combination.

The application, as amended, should now be in condition for allowance and the Examiner's prompt action in accordance therewith is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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